



NEW BLOOMFIELD SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS 0025 BLOOMFIELD, NEW JERSEY

TO THE BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION:

Mr. Harold Kaplan
Mr. John Severs
Mr. Harold Tyne
Mr. George Welle
Mrs. Frank Galioto, President

FOREWORD

I submit herewith my fifth annual report to the Board of Education. This has been a year of progress both with respect to the physical facilities in which our pupils are housed, and because of improvements in the educational program offered to them.

In a year marked by a tragic assassination, as well as by many other disturbing developments at home and abroad, our faculty and students continue to devote themselves to their tasks, with continuous and consistent effort. This is a tribute to the stability of the school system. However, it will still be our purpose in the years ahead to seek, in every possible manner, more ways to improve the Bloomfield public schools.

Sincerely,

FRANK B. STOVER
Superintendent of Schools

July, 1964

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

The outstanding event of the year for the Senior High School was the dedication of the new boys gymnasium on April 5, 1964 in memory of John F. Kennedy, the 35th President of the United States. This new facility will enable us to offer a physical education program which will comply with state requirements, as well as a more appropriate setting for athletic contests and events. It is anticipated that renovation of the old boys gymnasium to become a second teaching station for girls will begin in the immediate months ahead.

Business Education Department

In business education, one event of importance was the awarding of four state prizes to pupils in our Distributive Education class. As a result, the Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce underwrote their travel and that of their instructor, Mr. Lorenzi, to the National Distributive Education conference at Chicago. Near the close of the year these students gave a dinner for the cooperating merchants, in conjunction with the distributive education class at Ridgewood High School.

Plans have been made to increase offerings in stenography in the 11th grade in order to meet an increasing demand. Next year five key punch simulators will be used in the office practice classroom as a result of current interest in most business establishments in data processing. Several classroom teachers have taken data processing courses and two are attending IBM school this summer.

English Department

The English Department, in conjunction with English departments in each junior high school, completed a major project in new courses of study written for teachers in charge of English groups of low ability.

As part of the international observance of the quadricentennial of Shakespeare's birth the English Department sponsored a presentation of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by the Montclair College Players in the high school auditorium. In addition, several hundred students saw *Romeo and Juliet* and *Julius Caesar* at the McCarter Theater in Princeton. Twenty-four seniors took examinations in May for advanced placement in college English next fall.

Foreign Language Department

The Foreign Language Department continued to develop sequential guides for the foreign language program. Further attention was given to the improvement of techniques and methods of testing in the language field. There are currently four foreign language clinics voluntarily staffed by members of the department, which offer students who need and want assistance additional help outside of the regular school day. A foreign language film festival in which all foreign language areas participated was held in the spring of this year. This activity was opened not only to Bloomfield students, but to those in neighboring communities.

Mathematics Department

The Mathematics Department has been occupied in the development of new course of study guides, aimed at establishing two different levels for all college preparatory mathematics. Plans for inter-visitation are being made with mathematics teachers in the two junior high schools.

Social Studies Department

The social studies department paid particular attention to the observance of the New Jersey Tercentenary. A New Jersey History Club was formed for the first time and affiliated with the Junior Historical Society.

This department acts as sponsors for a wide range of activities in the high school including Youth Week, Student Council, Student Activity Program, Senior Forum, Literary Discussion Group, New Jersey Boys' State, New Jersey Girls' State, Citizenship Institute, Junior Achievement, New Jersey History Club, and American Legion Auxiliary Essay Contest.

Library

The three members of the professional library staff have carried on various library-related activities. They have planned and supervised the work of the members of the Library Club. They have chaperoned these members on their trips and parties. They have attended meetings: a NJSLA meeting at Princeton, an Essex County School Library Association meeting at the Bloomfield North Junior High School, meetings of the Bloom-

field Library Science Committee, meetings with librarians from Bloomfield libraries at the Bloomfield Public Library. They have participated in the National Library Week activities in Bloomfield, have attended meetings of the Essex County National Library week group and have promoted celebration of the week with displays, posters, collections of books, bulletins, and lists to each staff member. This year for the first time the Library sponsored a book quiz, in which students were given an opportunity to win paperback books. They have taken part in Youth Week by sending a selected group of ten qualified Library Club members to the Bloomfield Public Library to act as staff members of that library for a day and to learn about the operation of that library.

Industrial Arts Department

The Industrial Arts Department has completed its guides and courses of study to date. It has upgraded its shop activities by new machine equipment. The metal shop has a new vertical milling machine. The Alemite Electronic Wheel Balancer and Wheel Line Units in the transportation classes have added study and practice in this important area of driving safety. The improved facilities in the graphic arts darkroom have added strength and service in the graphic arts area of the curriculum.

Evaluation

The entire faculty, with the assistance of Dr. Willis, devoted important attention to the improvement of teacher-made tests. Some change was made in the type and weighting of final examinations.

Looking ahead, the school faculty will begin work next year in preparation for the evaluation of the high school by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools in 1966. This will involve many meetings and much detailed study as part of a self-examination program preceding visitation by an outside committee.

NORTH JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

North Junior High School reports that the student council had the most successful year since the opening of that school. As of last year, council officers are selected in the spring to serve the following year and this has resulted in some wiser choices. Some of the projects undertaken by the council were deemed outstanding.

The school placed particular emphasis on expanding the cultural horizons of the student body through field trips and assembly programs. Examples were:

1. An assembly by a New York cast which performed Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice."
2. Seventy students attended the Metropolitan Opera.
3. Ninety students went to Lincoln Center to hear the Philharmonic.
4. Ninth grade art classes went to the Guggenheim Museum and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.
5. A large ninth grade group went to see "Oliver" on the New York stage.

The girls' physical education program at the school was dance received considerable emphasis and was well received. It is worth noting that in the five years that North Junior High expanded during the past year. For the first time modern School has been opened, it has won the State Archery tournament three times.

For the first time art, music, homemaking and industrial arts courses in grades seven and eight were rotated on a cycle basis every 12 weeks. The school administration believes that this change has improved the instructional program in each area. A second ungraded class was initiated and was quite successful in its first year of operation. However, now that there are two such classes in North Junior High School the question of what to do with the older teenagers in such classes becomes a problem for future planning.

The five year program in building up the school library to a minimum standard of approximately 8500 volumes has been completed, though annual appropriations will be necessary to maintain the standard. The library and the school administration are considering the integration of library science materials and instruction into the regular academic program conducted by the classroom teachers rather than to teach these materials in separate library classes. It is probable that such an experiment will be undertaken in another year.

Plans for next year include studies of how to help the less able student. A school-wide committee is being formed to consider program and teaching techniques which could produce better results with students in the lower third of the class. Pre-vocational school training in such areas as shop, homemaking and typing will be offered five periods a week in these subjects if students are not enrolled in a college preparatory program.

Among other proposed changes will be the introduction of

more electronics into the industrial arts program at the school. Further use will be made of programmed learning materials, which have been used successfully in ninth grade English classes during the past several years.

SOUTH JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

An assembly committee at South Junior High School has functioned most efficiently during the past several years. The committee considers assemblies as opportunities for large group instruction, as well as a training ground for breadth of appreciation and the accepted manner of showing it.

The electronics shop has progressed from the development of physical facilities and a laboratory manual to a more advanced course, including appliance repair of tape recorders, radios and simple TV circuits.

A typing major for the ninth grade, introduced this last year, has been most successful. In addition to the educational advancement of the pupils they have contributed to such school activities as the newspaper, and the magazine, and have performed minor amounts of secretarial work for teachers.

Due to the illness of a teacher, members of the English department cooperated in a team teaching situation involving between 50 and 60 children. This proved to be a rewarding experience both for pupils and teachers.

For the second year an ungraded class, composed of slow learners from several grade levels, was in operation. The administration of the school believes that, with additional staff, more such classes should be formed. This would seem particularly appropriate because of the increasing numbers of such students in the school population.

Children at the South Junior High School continue to be concerned about children elsewhere. The student council holds weekly meetings to plan charity drives, clothing collections for "Save the Children," "We Care Alaska," etc. Collection and rehabilitation of toys is still in process. In some cases a selected committee confidentially investigates needy cases and may purchase such items as gym shoes. It is apparent that this concern for others provides lessons which may not be learned in the classroom.

A new newspaper entitled "South Side Story" came into being this year. Recommendation for its establishment emanated from the self-study conducted by the faculty in the previous year. The publication is partly subsidized by the student council so that the selling price may be made reasonable.

At the suggestion of the Welfare Committee a school art festival was conducted in the Spring. This was a semi-public exhibition and had many adult visitors.

With the increased emphasis on the different areas of industrial arts a problem of increased supplies has arisen. Some evaluation of the shifting program within the school needs to be made prior to budget determination for the next year.

The principal and faculty have been eager to have some renovation made in the faculty dining facilities, which do not seem to be in keeping with those in modern secondary schools.

If possible, consideration is asked for the removal of partitions between certain rooms to create large group instruction possibilities, such as double typewriting classes. This type of alteration would also make more feasible team teaching experiences such as those described above.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Due to the closing of Sacred Heart kindergarten, the Bloomfield school system had the largest kindergarten enrollment in its history. In September of 1962, 693 children were enrolled in kindergarten. In September, 1963, there were 740 children enrolled in kindergarten, despite the fact that this was a low birth year and that in the years immediately ahead a larger number of children will appear. For grades kindergarten through six there were 3973 children enrolled in September, 1962. At the end of September, 1963 there were 4082 children enrolled. During the past five years we have seen this small but persistent increase in enrollment. There are now about 200 more children in the elementary schools than four years ago, and this number will be expected to continue to increase.

This has resulted in some slightly larger classes in some sections of town in necessary shifts in district lines, and has resulted in increased demands for auxiliary services from helping teachers, the Child Guidance Department, etc. However, the administration of larger units with the same number of administrative personnel has resulted in a more efficient and economical operation.

1964 was the year of the New Jersey Tercentenary, and the elementary schools of Bloomfield gave full recognition to the event. There were musicals, plays, assembly talks, visits to historical places, presentation of state flags, and all culminated by the visit for the entire fourth, fifth and sixth grades to the World's Fair in New York. In spite of the large number of over 2,000 children and adults who went no mishaps occurred, which is a credit to the organization and planning that preceded the event.

The second outstanding development was the gradual commitment of the system to a program of contemporary or modern mathematics in the elementary schools. Following the year in which Mr. Montesano, principal of Carteret School, had acted as "Mr. Arithmetic" in talking to all the faculties of the elementary schools, we embarked on a series of thirty experimental situations, in which experienced teachers at all grade levels tried out new materials and methods. As a result, the elementary teachers as a group feel comfortable about undertaking a conversion into this program in the fall of 1964 and we believe that this will be a forward step, consistent with the use of modern mathematics in our secondary schools during the last six years.

Only a few of the highlights from our various schools can be mentioned here but are illustrative of the school year.

Berkeley School

The special feature was the devotion of six special faculty meetings to the improvement of the reading program in the school. This was especially significant because high transiency in the school population has accentuated this particular need.

Brookdale School

In Brookdale an international atmosphere prevailed when a first grade made a considerable effort to help a South American child assimilate our language and culture, while a fourth grade conducted a year long project of correspondence with a school in West Hartpool, England. The fourth grade, always busy studying New Jersey, made special field trips into Newark and the Newark Airport and to Trenton where they met the Governor. The staff of the school paid particular attention to the guidance aspects of their positions, and conferences were held with teachers, parents, nurses, reading consultants, speech therapists, home and school counselors and other members of the Child Guidance Department.

Brookside and Franklin Schools

Brookside and Franklin teachers devoted special emphasis to meetings on the topic, "Focus on the Child", utilizing tape recordings of talks by Dr. Louis Rath of Newark State College on the needs of children and their problems, and talks by Dr. Eloise Cason, Director of Bloomfield's Child Guidance Department, on critical incident techniques. Each teacher selected a child of whom she kept a voluminous record. This case study approach was most significant in teaching and understanding child behavior.

Carteret School

Carteret had a stimulating year in which major emphasis was placed upon reading skills and written and oral forms of communication. In addition to special aids and special groupings, utilization was made of the school library, the children's librarian from the Public Library, the new town bookmobile and the second annual paperback book sale.

The school was busy with the new mathematics program as six of the teachers participated in the town-wide evaluation of new mathematics text books. Typical of other schools, the field trip as a learning device should be noted, including trips to Turtle Back Zoo, the Montclair and Newark museums, the New York Museum of Natural History and Hayden's Planetarium, the Thomas A. Edison museum in West Orange, Newark Airport, Bayonne Naval Base, Public Service Bus Terminal, Bloomfield Municipal Building, Fire House, Public Library, and the World's Fair.

Forest Glen and Watsessing Schools

Fifth and sixth grades in Forest Glen participated in the annual D.A.R. contest sponsored by the Major Bloomfield Chapter of the town. Special attention was devoted at Watsessing School to the better use of group skill tests by the classroom teacher.

Demarest School

At Demarest a study of occupations of parents was undertaken. This has made available additional resource people to assist in Social Studies units. Emphasis was given to penmanship in all grades. As a corollary two classes embarked on the "Pen Pals" project which the principal claims to be a tremendous incentive to letter writing, grammar and research about the state of New Jersey.

Fairview School

Fairview served as a junior practicum center for Jersey City State College, with four teachers cooperating.

Oak View School

At Oak View both the faculty programs and the home and school association were generally devoted to psychology and guidance. Members of the Child Guidance Department described their roles and viewpoints. A presentation was made to the home and school using the National Education Association strip "Your

Child's Intelligence." A movie was shown entitled "The Shy Child", followed by a panel of staff members.

Paul C. Lashua, the principal and Isabelle Redfearn Blackmore, the reading specialist, were co-authors of an article published in the October issue of the **NEA Journal**. The article described a meeting held to inform parents concerning elementary reading instruction.

Health and Physical Education

The senior nurse reports that the Tine test, an interdermal test for tuberculosis, was successfully administered for the first time to grades 1, 5, 9 and 12 in accordance with the new state regulations. No active cases were found. The schools cooperated in the administering of the Sabin Oral Vaccine program to all Bloomfield students. Special efforts were made to encourage all school age children to become a part of the program.

A new program of dental hygiene, including charts and demonstrations, was initiated at the fourth grade level.

New emphasis was placed upon tobacco education and a teaching unit was developed by the staff for tobacco education in the sixth grade. Classroom instruction and assembly programs on this topic were offered to the junior high schools and a special film was shown to all senior high school boys and girls. Because of new outbreaks of narcotics cases in our metropolitan area, including several in Bloomfield, special sessions were held for staff members on detection of narcotic addicts, and student assemblies were held at the senior high school.

Physical education demonstrations, a usual feature of program in Bloomfield, were held at both junior high schools and at Brookside and Franklin schools. By special board action, the elementary after school playground was reinstated during the spring.

There was a change in the Youth Week format for elementary schools this year, in which contests were held at each school location rather than at Foley Field. As a result more than 1,000 elementary boys and girls participated in various contests and a great many parents attended. This increased participation seemed to be well received by all.

Elementary Science

Our science coordinator assisted three schools in presenting science fairs and participated in seven teacher workshops held by various school faculties. A new field trip guide for science was developed. All sixth grades in town walked to junior high schools to review the N.A.S.A.'s Spacemobile demonstration.

Two of our teachers were successful in having science articles published by national magazines. Mrs. Beatrice Nelson, a fifth grade teacher at Watsessing, had a play on "Simple Machines" in The Instructor and the New Jersey Development Council research bulletin published the "Role of a Science Coordinator" by Mr. Andrew Peters. More than 50 elementary science guides were sold throughout the country upon request. In the future Mr. Peters visualizes another town-wide science fair and the establishment of a weather station at one or more schools.

Elementary Library

This year the elementary library consultant assisted in development of bibliographies for all social studies and science units in grades three and four. Bibliographies for other grades and subjects will be prepared in the future. It is gratifying to note that the average circulation of books per child during the past year was 23.9; in one school the average circulation per child was 30 books. Our book collection now averages 8 per pupil, which indicates gratifying progress. Our goal to meet national standards would be 10 books per pupil.

The coordinator was able to make more classroom visits this year and gave lessons on the use of the card catalogue in each of the sixth grades. The growth of elementary library work indicates, however, that more staff should be added in the future.

Music

The elementary music teachers prepared monthly units for distribution to the classroom teachers. This is a beginning step toward the formation of study guides.

The use of rotating instrumental schedule for the second year at North Junior High School was so successful that next year both junior high schools will have a similar program. The senior high school music department has completely revised guides for the music courses in the curriculum, including new guides for Music Theory II and Music Literature.

The after school music classes continue to flourish. This year over 200 students participated, of whom 20 were vocal students.

This was the first year of concentrated team teaching for instrumental music in the grades. The purpose of this is to concentrate the period of time during which such lessons are given in any one school. The new arrangement appears to be well received by principals and teachers.

Last fall a workshop was held for all fifth and sixth grade teachers in the use of the new music text books. This was especially important because of the emphasis we have recently placed on the music reading program.

High school vocal groups have reached a new high. There were 270 participants in the spring program and the music was of a high quality.

Few can forget the magnificent performances given at the dedication program for the new gymnasium by both the band and special chorus. Our many visitors declared that they had never heard finer performances by high school groups anywhere.

Child Guidance

This year we received a final report from Dr. Eloise Cason, who for 19 years has been the distinguished director of Child Guidance, and a leading authority on school psychology at the state and national level.

We note that the backlog of students awaiting psychology tests has grown year by year in larger proportion than the increases in school population. However, the demand is somewhat sporadic since we notice that two schools had 40% of all the cases awaiting study in June, 1964. One unfamiliar with the field would underestimate the effort which is made by Dr. Cason and the assistant psychologist in the field of testing and conferences preceding or following the tests. This year I have compiled a recount of this work load.

Individual Intelligence Tests	306
Personality Tests	580
Educational Tests	495
Interviews with pupils	170
Observations	53
Parent Interviews	69
Teacher Conferences	285
Administrative Conferences	206

Both the director and the social workers report that there is a great need for additional psychiatric help. The existing publicly supported clinics have such backlogs that the school has been unable to find service available, and in the rare instances when such service is provided, reports may not be received for more than a year. Consequently we have to make increasing use of our own consulting psychiatrist whose time is necessarily limited by his practice.

We have had increasing referrals by principals and others of students we could term deprived, especially in terms of social, cultural, and emotional needs. This observation lends credence to the belief that aid for all types of children and youth with special problem needs to be more readily available at the community level. It is interesting to note that 80% of all the referrals to the psychologist represent cases where home and school counselors have been involved with social case work between the school and the home.

Many members of the department attended a number of meetings concerned with brain damaged children. This newer area of concern has been receiving attention from school administration here and in Nutley with the thought that some joint program may be undertaken within the next year or so.

Psychologists and other members of the department served as frequent speakers at faculty workshops and home and school association meetings. We consider this to be one of the most important aspects of their job.

Our home and school counselors were increasingly involved in court work, with the largest number of referrals in our history. The local Juvenile Conference Committee, for example, heard 76 cases, a record number. One home and school counselor had 83 conferences with inter-agency groups. The case work load has been increasing, especially at the junior high school level. One interesting project of the home and school counselors involved the use of high school seniors from the Future Teachers of America club who tutored children who had learning problems which had contributed to their social maladjustment.

Next year will mark the beginning of special help for the hard of hearing children in the elementary schools in Bloomfield. After careful survey 12 children who could profit by this help were identified, three of whom have been attending classes in Newark. Eight parents have consented to have their children attend regular classes at Demarest School, where they will receive supplemental instruction in speech and lip reading. The others will receive some help on an itinerant basis, if the instructor's time permits.

George Morris School

The George Morris School reports an interesting cooperative program with a select group of students majoring in psychology at Bloomfield College. One served in a counselling relationship with an individual case; another organized a corrective physical education program for some younger boys. A doctoral student made a recent study of perception, utilizing our after school trainable group.

A fully chartered cub pack for George Morris boys began operation this year. Some 16 boys between the ages of 8 and 12 are enrolled.

The first science fair was held at George Morris School this year. It was a tribute to the teachers and the science coordinator, who has always taken an especial interest in this school.

We have an increasing number of multi-handicapped mentally retarded children in George Morris and an increasing problem finding proper classification between trainable and educable. If possible, a pilot class will be placed in operation in the fall of 1964 to provide for these unusual categories.

A third junior high school class for educable retarded was instituted this year at North Junior High School. We shall now look forward to a special class at the senior high school incorporating work experience under proper supervision. This will be possible in another year or so.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

1963 - 1964

Total Average Enrollment	7,794
School Buildings Operated	16
Supervisors and Principals	19
Teachers — Full-time	394
Part-time	30
Other Employees (full and part-time).....	166
Day School Cost Per Pupil in Total	
Average Enrollment	\$555.47
Day School Expenditures	
(without new buildings, etc.).....	\$4,329,169.75

Physical Improvements in the School Plant

The new gymnasium at Bloomfield Senior High was completed and dedicated at a public ceremony on April 5, 1964. Use by boys classes began shortly thereafter.

The high school student cafeteria was refurbished with the installation of a vinyl asbestos tile floor, interior painting and partial replacement of worn out furniture.

The original dishwasher installed in the cafeteria at South Junior High School in 1940 was replaced with a new machine.

The replacement of worn out pupil furniture was continued at all levels where required. The renovation or replacement of all pupil furniture is expected to be completed by September, 1965.

The paved playground at Demarest School was resurfaced.

The exterior of Watsessing School and the interior of Demarest School, Administration Building and Carteret School were painted.

New copper gutter linings were installed on Watsessing School.

New main electric service was installed at the School Administration Building and at the Senior High School.

The auditorium seats at South Junior High School were rebuilt and recovered.

The close of this school year marked the retirement of some of our most valued staff members, whose service to Bloomfield totals many hundreds of years. We shall not be able to replace them; they will always have a home in the Bloomfield School System. They are Florence Becker, C. Eileen Donoghue, Vesta Parsons, Marion Taylor, Mary Crowe, Mary Percy, Lloyd V. Krueger, Eloise Cason, Florence Collins, Dorothy Rosenfelt, Ida Birdsall, Hilda Magowan, Mildred Zahn, Marjorie Lorne, Bernadette Thompson, Helen Jelene, Mildred Lambert, Ivy Stamm, Walter Herman, Arthur Jones, John Barth and Carl Hartdorn.

During the past year your superintendent served as an advisory member of the Essex County Community College Study Commission, visiting lecturer at Hunter College and Rutgers University, member of New Jersey Regional Planning Association, Chairman of New Jersey Tercentenary Education Advisory Committee, Chairman of A.A.S.A. Centennial Committee, vice chairman of New Jersey School Development Council, member of the Commissioner's Commission on the Handicapped Child, and as a member of the Bloomfield Development Committee. He was also a contributing author to the annual yearbook of the American Society for Curriculum Development.

Your many challenging suggestions and comments, your unflinching interest in education, and your genuine and sincere support have been an inspiration to me and to all the members of the Bloomfield staff. Our common purpose is to build the best school system possible with the resources we possess.